

Today, Edison employs over 14,000 individuals in Southern California alone and its utility subsidiary, Southern California Edison, has over 12,000 miles of transmission lines. Edison is also currently building the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, the largest wind transmission venture in the United States. Edison is also involved with developing wind energy. Edison Mission Energy, one of the largest developers of wind energy, has 30 projects in operation or under construction in 11 states.

Edison continues looking towards the future and is leading an initiative to prepare the electric grid for the widespread adoption of plug-in electric vehicles. Finally, Edison is currently working to upgrade its electric system infrastructure so that they will be prepared for the next 125 years.

It is important to note the dedication of Edison International to the communities it serves. With many families struggling in the current economy, Edison is working with residents and businesses to help them save money by utilizing energy efficiency techniques. In addition, in 2010, employees contributed \$4.3 million to schools and non-profits. This year, to celebrate its 125th anniversary, Edison employees are taking part in 125 community service events, including assisting City of Hope and other valuable organizations.

Congratulations to Edison and its employees for 125 years of innovation, reliable service and commitment to the community.

HONORING NATHAN JAY
CHALOUPKA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathan Jay Chaloupka. Nathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Nathan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Nathan designed and built an outdoor prayer and meditation area for the First United Methodist Church of Kearney.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathan Jay Chaloupka for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING STREET SOCCER
USA

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Street Soccer USA, a leader in sports-

based youth development for Americans facing homelessness.

SSUSA builds trust through sports to help adults and youth overcome homelessness, and is a powerful tool for workforce development, educational advancement, improved health, and crime and violence reduction.

This summer, over 200 athletes from 18 U.S. cities competed as part of the Nation's premier sport-for-change event in DC June 10-12.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating this year's participating teams. They are among a distinguished group of individuals dedicated to improving their lives.

Congratulations to the men's and women's teams from Street Soccer Minneapolis, both of whom took home the Leonsis Trophy for first place.

Thanks to the hard-working employees and volunteers who made the event such a huge success. May God bless you with many more successful years ahead.

Indeed these individuals are demonstrating that ending homelessness and poverty is a team sport!

HONORING CHRISTOPHER NOAL
BROWNING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Noal Browning. Christopher is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 237, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Christopher has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Christopher designed and constructed a divider wall around the restrooms at Bunceton Park in Bunceton, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Noal Browning for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. WILLIAM
ASTOR KIRK, SR., EDUCATOR
AND SOCIAL ACTIVIST

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. William Astor Kirk, Sr., educator, social activist and author. Dr. William Astor Kirk, Sr., was the eldest of six children born to Alex and Exella Kirk in Harleton, Texas. He briefly attended Wiley College in Marshall, Texas before enrolling in

Howard University in Washington, DC where he received both a bachelor's and master's degree, respectively.

Dr. Kirk led a life devoted to family, faith and intellectual pursuits and fought to bring about social justice and equality for African Americans in public facilities and accommodations in educational institutions. Dr. Kirk and his wife of more than sixty years, Vivian Tramble married in 1946 and had two children. The Kirk's core values centered on faith and family and intellectual curiosity and social responsibility—beliefs Dr. Kirk graciously shared with family and friends.

Upon completing his Master's degree in Government from Howard University in 1974, Dr. Kirk and wife Vivian relocated to Austin, Texas where he assumed the position of professor of Government and Economics at Huston-Tillotson College. Dr. Kirk, active in Austin civic life was an organizer in the local chapter of the NAACP and arranged peaceful protests that led to desegregation of the Austin Public Library and many other public facilities. Dr. Kirk's work against discrimination also focused on the University of Texas where he applied and was admitted to a PhD Program. Dr. Kirk's refusal to study in segregated classes prompted a lawsuit by the Austin chapter of the NAACP. Subsequently, Kirk began his studies at the University after a United States Supreme Court ruling of *Sweatt v. Painter*, which ended segregation of the University's school was applied to its graduate program as well. In 1958, W. Astor Kirk, Sr. became the first African American to earn and receive a Doctorate in Political Science from the University of Texas.

Dr. Kirk was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and studied at the London School of Economics and Political Science in London, England. Professionally, in addition to his teaching post at Huston-Tillotson, Dr. Kirk was adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Maryland and had teaching assignments at Rutgers University, Boston University School of Theology and Howard University.

Dr. Kirk also had a distinguished career as a federal government executive and management consultant. In 1968, Dr. Kirk was personally recruited by President Lyndon B. Johnson for the post of Deputy Regional Director (Southwest Region) of the United States Office of Economic Opportunity. He continued his government service under the Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan administrations. Following his retirement from the federal civil service, Dr. Kirk founded and was CEO of Organization Management Services Corporation, an organizational development firm.

Prior to his passing, Dr. Kirk initiated an anti-discrimination mass petition in an effort with the Church to end, in his words, "the mandatory negative differential treatment of gays, lesbians and bisexuals United Methodists."

Dr. Kirk's lifetime of contributions to education, racial and gender equality and broad civil rights issues inspires all, as he was not afraid to tackle the biggest, most looming issues of his day.

Again, I ask that my colleagues please join me in saluting the life and legacy of educator, humanitarian and social activist, Dr. William Astor Kirk, Sr.